

**In the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Please delete claims 1-17

Please add the following claims:

18. A method for blocking NFκB activation in a mammal, the method comprising administering to the mammal an antibody that binds to the polypeptide consisting of amino acids 15-456 of SEQ ID NO:7, wherein the antibody blocks IL-18 stimulation of NFκB signaling.
19. A method for blocking JNK activation in a mammal, the method comprising administering to the mammal an antibody that binds to the polypeptide consisting of amino acids 15-456 of SEQ ID NO:7, wherein the antibody blocks IL-18 induction of JNK signaling.
20. An assay method comprising causing an antibody to contact a test agent and determining if the antibody binds to the agent, wherein the antibody binds a polypeptide consisting of amino acids 15-456 of SEQ ID NO:7.